REMARKS

Applicant requests consideration and allowance of the subject application in light of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 32-52 are pending in the application, with claims 32, 38, 43, and 48 being independent. By th is amendment, claims 32, 33, 38, 39, 43, 44, 48, and 49 have been amended to more clearly define features of the invention. Support for these changes can be found in the application, as filed. No new matter is being added.

Initially, Applicant notes that Applicant has not yet received an initialed copy of the Form PTO-1449 submitted with the Information Disclosure Statement filed on August 31, 2004. Applicant requests consideration of the information cited on that Form PTO-1449, and that an initialed copy of that form be returned to Applicant.

In the Office Action, claims 32-52 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,400,462 to Hille. Applicants traverse this rejection.

As now recited in independent claim 32, a printing system includes a printer apparatus and an information processing apparatus. Among other features of the printing system, the information processing apparatus includes a display unit, a memory, identification means for identifying a notice sent by notice means, and control means. When the notice is identified as a first type of notice, the control means controls the display unit to perform a display based on information corresponding to the first type of notice, which is stored in the memory in advance. When the notice is identified as a second type of notice, the control means controls the display unit to perform a request display for prompting an operator to instruct whether or not to connect to a first URL to obtain countermeasure information corresponding to the second type of notice.

9

The information processing apparatus is connected to the internet when the connection to the first URL is instructed, and a display based on the countermeasure information which is obtained via the internet based on the first URL is displayed on the display unit of the information processing apparatus.

In other aspects of the invention, claims 38, 43, and 48 recite, respectively, an information processing apparatus, an information processing method, and a computer program product for an information processing apparatus, all of which have features that generally relate to the above-described features of the information processing apparatus of claim 32.

With the present invention defined in the independent claims, for example, it is possible for an operator to obtain countermeasure information corresponding to a second notice, without maintaining, in the printer driver, software that supplies such countermeasure information. Furthermore, it is possible to save memory resources because connection to a URL to obtain the countermeasure information corresponding to the second type of notice is done at the discretion of an operator.

Applicant submits that many features of the independent claims are not taught or suggested by Hille. Hille relates to a service tool for servicing printers in which printer errors are detected, their cause is obtained, and fix information is provided. The errors and fix information are stored as HTML files. As recited at column 6, lines 52-54, "[t]he HTML files are stored locally on portable computer 11, but can be periodically updated from information stored on the internet."

However, nowhere does Hille teach or suggest at least controlling a display unit to perform a request display for prompting an operator to instruct whether or not to connect

to a first URL to obtain countermeasure information corresponding to a second type of notice, as recited in independent claims 32, 38, 43, and 48.
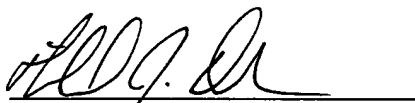
For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicant submits that independent claims 32, 38, 43, and 48 are patentable over Hille. Favorable reconsideration and withdraw of the rejection to the independent claims are requested.

The remaining claims depend from one of the independent claims and are believed allowable by virtue of their dependency, and for reciting other patentable features of the invention. Favorable and independent reconsideration of the dependent claims are requested.

Applicant submits that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejection are requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael J. Didas
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 55,112

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200
MJD:eyw

DC_MAIN 187000v1